Share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project

789. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that payment of arrears towards share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project by the participating States *viz.*, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are not being paid by them to Gujarat regularly;

(b) whether Government propose to take suitable effective steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir. As reported by the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited, Government of Gujarat, the payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project to the Government of Gujarat is not being made regularly by the participating States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) The issue of the payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project by the party States to the Government of Gujarat is being discussed in the Narmada Control Authority meetings and other fora such as Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee, Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority, etc. from time to time and the States are being impressed upon to provide sufficient budgetary provisions for payments of their share for construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project to Government of Gujarat.

Cloud seeding technology to control drought

790. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Karnataka has adopted cloud seeding technology to tackle drought in the State;

(b) whether Government are also aware that several States including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra are trying to emulate Karnataka's cloud seeding experiment;

(c) whether Karnataka Chief Minister has urged the Central Government to evolve a national policy on cloud seeding to help drought prone area of the country; and